

tell you what birds should be counted as residents. You want no 'Floaters' in your count, for they belong somewhere else and would then be counted twice. If young birds of the year are counted they should be designated as young.

There is no need to complete the census in a single day, nor in a week, if care be taken to avoid duplicating records. A little practice will enable you to carry on the work at odd times successfully. You need only to keep a careful record of all work.

When your work is completed, if you will send it, with a specific description of the area chosen, with your name and address, to the address below, it will be incorporated in a general report of work done in many different places with the deductions that may be possible.

LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

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## FURTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR THE TAKING OF A BIRD CENSUS.

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In the above communication, Professor Jones impresses upon our minds the importance of general utility of any well taken bird census; he also offers many valuable suggestions as to the mode of procedure, and a few words of caution; valuable to any one who may decide to take up this novel and all-absorbing branch of field work.

The writer has been engaged in the enumeration of the avian population of a stated district for several years past. The outline of the work he has blocked out, may prove of interest to many, as it fills out in a measure the details omitted by Professor Jones. A correspondent has remarked that it necessitates scarcely less than a biological survey of the section studied, but it is not intended to be strictly so, only the most numerous and familiar plant and animal life having an important bearing upon the presence, absence, increase or decrease of our birds need be taken into consideration.

1st. Map out a tract of land one square mile (640 acres) most readily accessible and if possible containing a fair proportion

and representation of the flora and fauna with the natural surroundings (upland, swamp, creek, ravine, wood, thicket, clearing, meadow, cultivated field, neglected field, orchard, lawn, etc.) of the neighborhood or county. Where it is found impossible to unite so diversified an area, separate sections may be mapped out in proportionate blocks.

2nd. Description of the topography of section studied. The altitude, latitude and longitude. Mean and extremes of temperature for the breeding season. Humidity, etc.

3rd. Enumeration of the characteristic plants, fruits, grain, nuts, insects, fish, reptiles, mammals, etc., indigenous to district, also those introduced by man directly or indirectly, which may be regarded as foods, enemies or competitors of the birds, and which according to their scarcity or abundance might effect the increase or decrease of the avian inhabitants.

4th. Presence or absence of natural or artificial nesting sites, shelter or cover, in connection with the numerical abundance of certain species of birds.

5th. Enumeration of the number of individuals of all species of birds summering or breeding within the specified limits, by means of "horizons", song of males, the location of nests, and any other way possible; verifying records by a careful search for nests after the leaves have fallen, not losing sight of the fact that some species build two or more nests in one season.

FRANK L. BURNS, *Berwyn, Penna.*

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## MIGRATION NOTES WANTED.

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Last year I called for migration records for early May, but the responses were so few that no table for the bird movements of the first five days could be prepared, I again make the call for migration records for the first five days of May, and earnestly solicit the records of a every reader of this notice. The records of a single year will be acceptable, but I desire such records of as many years as can be given. I particularly wish records of "first seen," but "next seen" and "common" would also be very acceptable.

Address, LYND S. JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*